Acquisition of Land for Free Trade Zone at Visakhapatnam

302. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

SHRI G. SWAMY NAIK:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to acquire land at Visakhapatnam for establishing a free trade zone;

(b) if so what is the extent of land needed and the actual area acquired;

(c) which industries will be encouraged to be started in this free trade zone; and

(d) what incentives are being offered to the industries for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) Different locations suggested by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for a proposed Export processing Zone at Visakhapatnam have been inspected. Action for acquisition of land has not been initiated. It is estimated that about 300—400 acres of land would be required for an E.P. Zone.

(c) A decision has not been taken in this regard.

(d) Incentives offered in all the Export Processing Zones are similar and include duty free import capital goods and components; a tax holiday for five years and 'deemed Exports' benefits on supplies from the Domestic Tariff Area.

Incentives for Silk Production

303. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO.

SHRI G. SWAMY NAIK:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what incentives have been offered by the Central Government to encourage silk production in the country;

(b) what are the names of the States where production of silk is high;

(c) what steps are being taken to produce high quality silk fabrics for sale at internationally competitive prices; and

(d) what are the figures of silk exports during the period 1983-86?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) In order to supplement the efforts of the State Government to encourage silk production in the country, Central Government through the Central Silk Board, provides assistance to the farmers in the form of subsidised supply of mulberry cuttings in new areas, and supply of quality disease-free layings at reasonable rates. In addition, technical guidance and training are provided to farmers by the Board through a network of Research Extension Centres. The Board is also implementing intensive sericulture development projects to enhance silk production in the country.

(b) Karnataka; Andhra Pradesh; Tamil Nadu; and West Bengal.

(c) In order to enable exporters to produce slik fabrics at internationally competitive prices, raw material is allowed for import under various export incentive schemes of the Govern-